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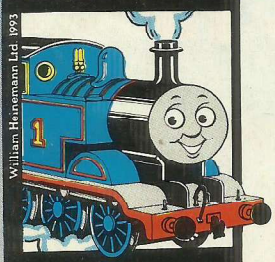


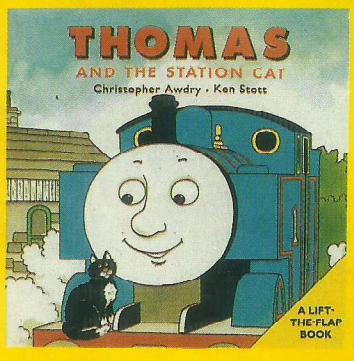
30th July 1993
№ 151 60p

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on the Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

Nestlé smarties
ZAPPER TOKEN INSIDE!

BOOKS TO BE WON



INSIDE!

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NOTICEBOARD

Peep! Peep! James is a fine red engine with a shiny brass dome! He is very proud of his paintwork and he doesn't like to do any of the messy jobs on the Island of Sodor! Thomas is a Really Useful Engine and he works very hard. In the story that begins on page 3, you can find out if James can help Thomas. Does a Really Useful Engine need to be a Really Clean engine too? Peep! Peep!

COMPETITION!

Turn to page 7 for your first opportunity to win some exciting new **Thomas Books** from Heinemann Young Books, including a spectacular large format **Pop-up book**, a **Lift the flap book** and a special **Peep through book**.

HOW TO OBTAIN YOUR FAT CONTROLLER'S CARD!

If you would like to receive your very own, splendid **Fat Controller's card**, just send one **red**, **yellow** and **blue** token together with your details listed below (details need only be listed on any one of the 3 coloured tokens when applying for this offer). Plus a stamped addressed envelope to: The Fat Controller's Card Offer, Marvel Comics Ltd., 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Postcode ..... **Age** ...

THOMAS TOKEN

ABC

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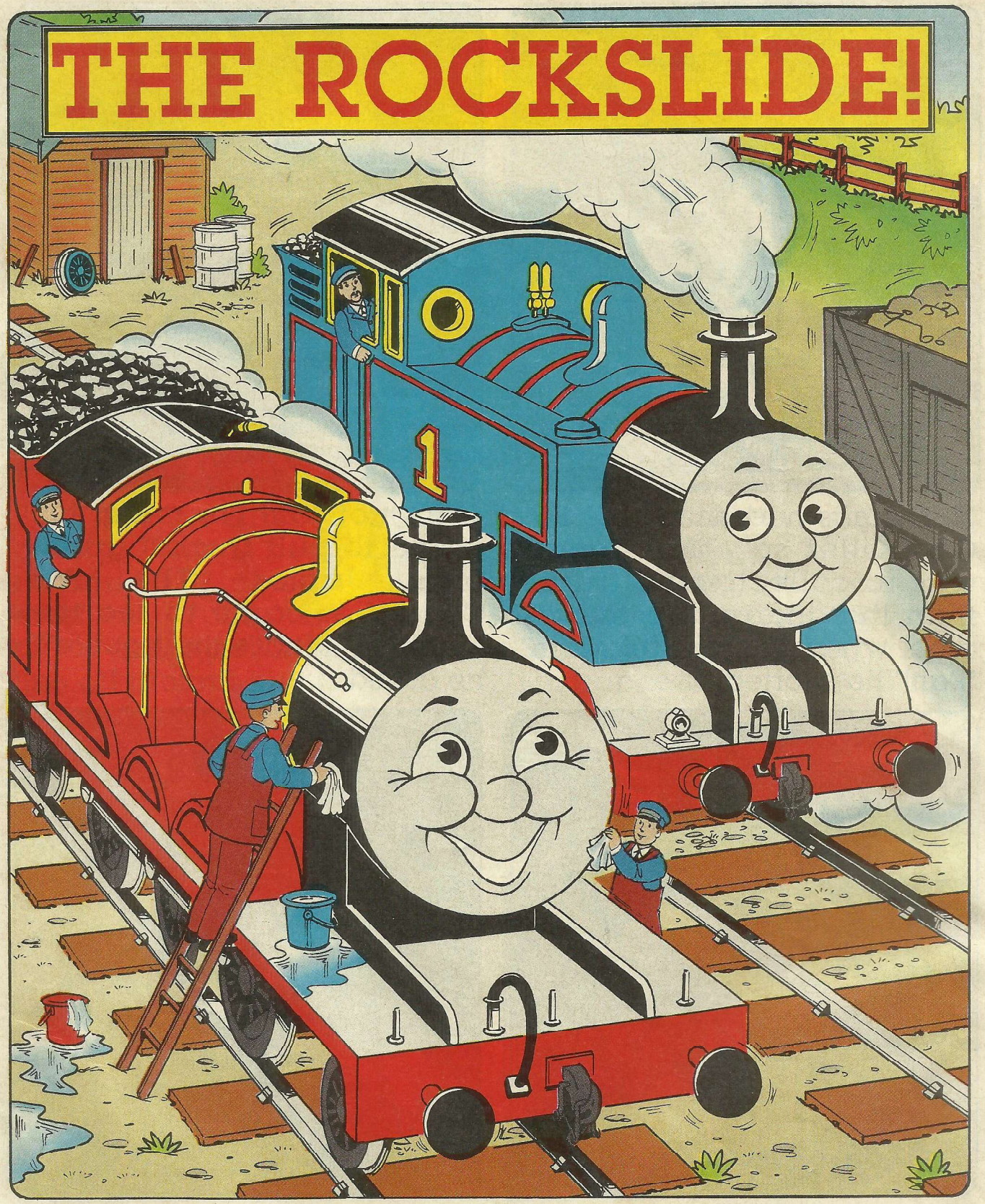
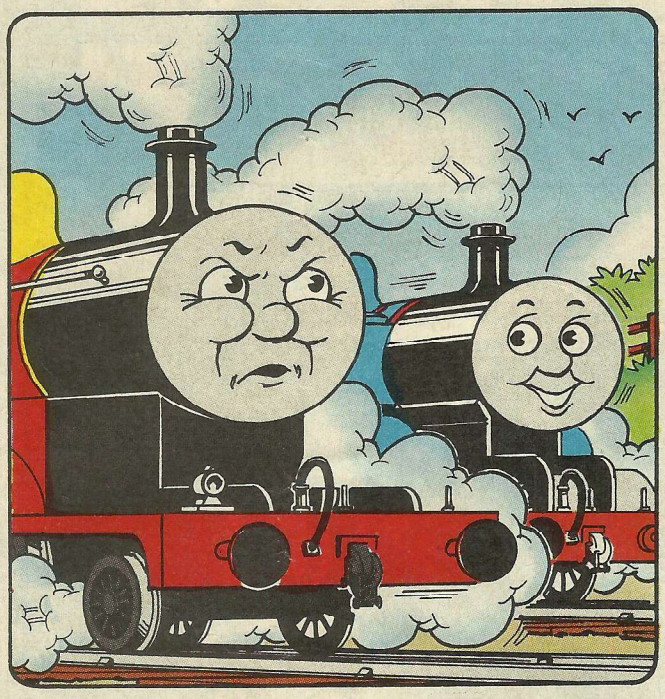
THE ROCKSLIDE!

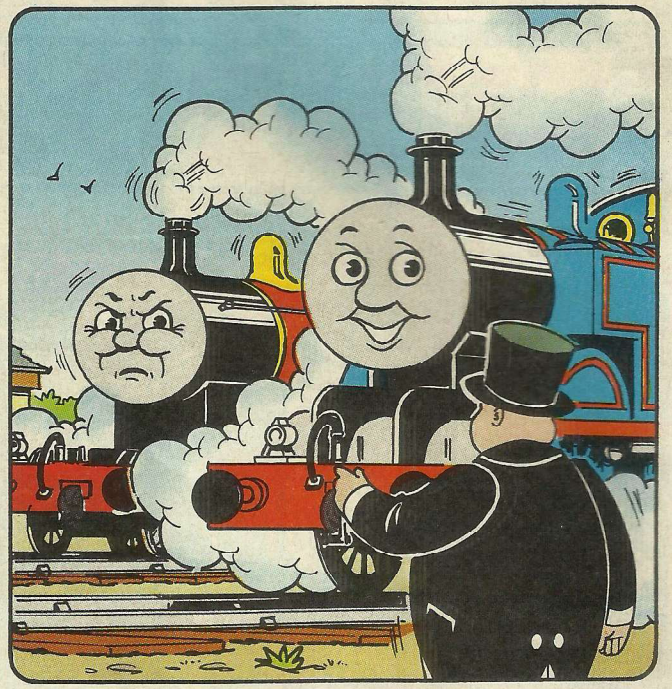


1. The Fat Controller likes all his engines to look their best. James was being washed and polished. Afterwards, his red paint and brass dome shone.

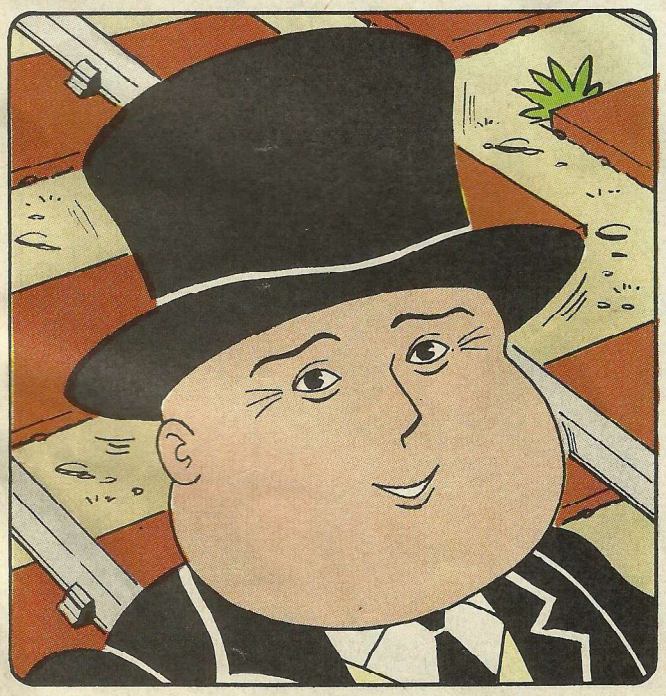
2. "What a splendid engine I am!" James boasted to Thomas. "Passengers like to see a Really Useful Engine that is spotless and sparkling, like me!"



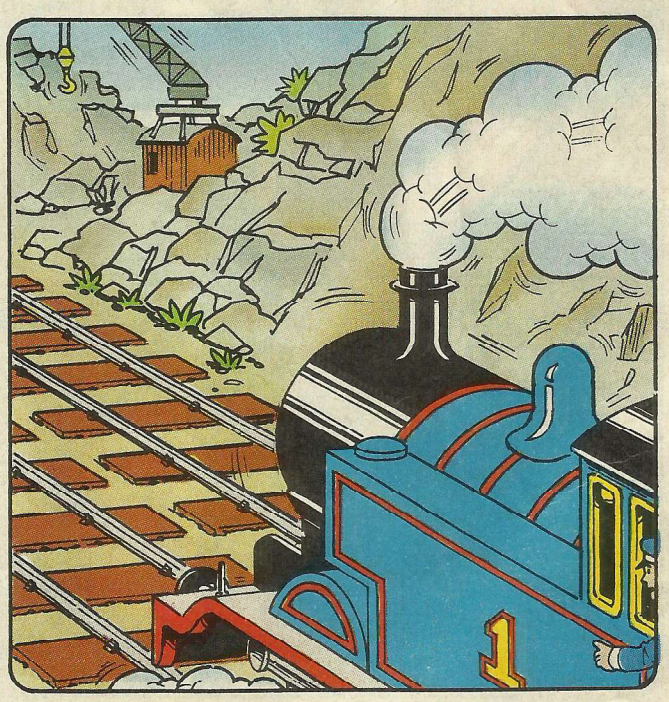
3. Thomas had heard the Fat Controller say that James was to collect some trucks from the quarry. James was cross when Thomas told him. "Pah!" he snorted.



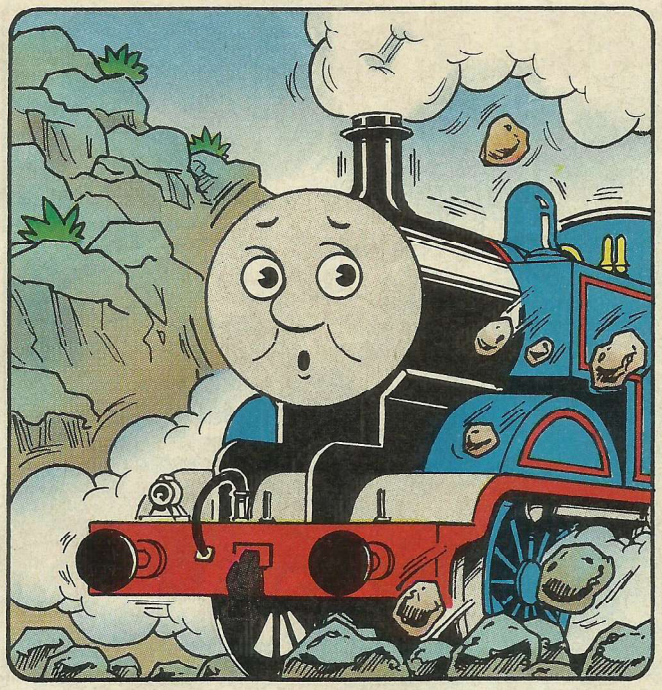
4."It's not fair! I'm much too grand to pull trucks!" grumbled James. The Fat Controller came to see the engines. "What's the trouble?" he asked.



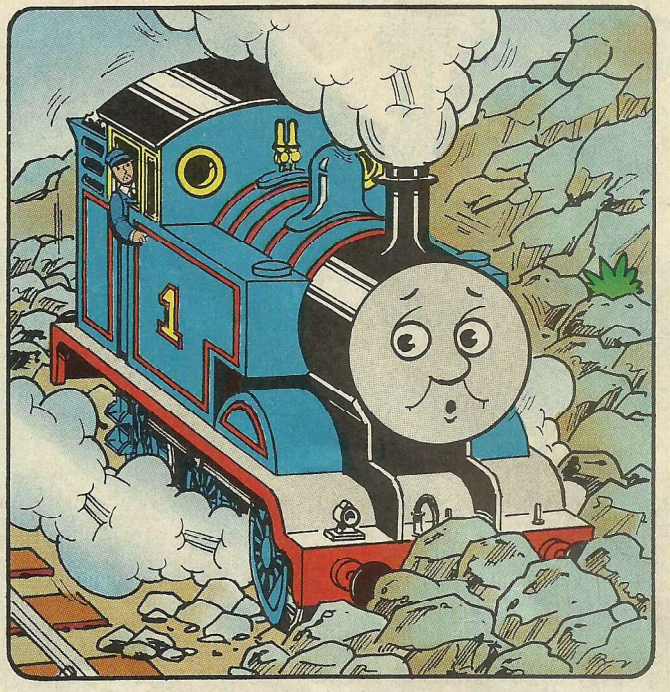
5. "I'm clean and ready to pull passengers, Sir, not dirty trucks!" protested James. "All the tasks my engines do are important!" said the Fat Controller.



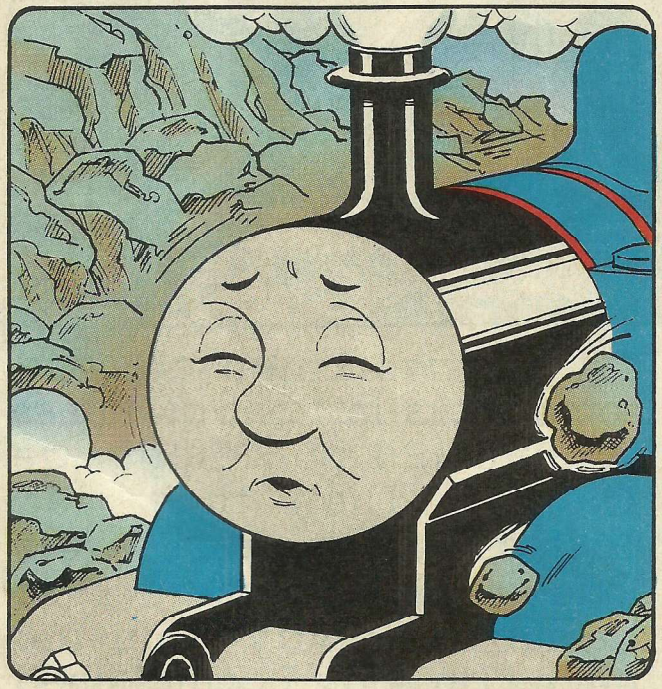
6. Thomas always enjoyed the journey to the quarry. "Please let me go instead of James, Sir?" he said. The Fat Controller finally agreed and Thomas set off.



7. When he arrived at the quarry, Thomas heard a loud rumbling noise. Next moment, rocks began to crash down noisily on to the line all around him.



8. "Rockslide!" shouted Thomas's driver. The track was blocked in front of Thomas, and behind him too. "Smoke and fire!" he cried. "I'm trapped!"



9. The driver urgently applied the brake and Thomas pulled up sharply. He was frightened. He shut his eyes and waited for the rockslide to finish.

10. Then his driver looked out of the cab and saw Thomas was half-buried by big rocks. "I can't move!" gasped Thomas. The driver climbed over the rocks to get help.

11. He telephoned the Fat Controller from the quarry. When James heard what had happened, he wanted to help rescue Thomas. "Oh, it's all my fault!" he groaned. "I should have been the one at the quarry!" James was quickly coupled to some trucks. He raced towards the quarry, carrying workmen and equipment.

12. The workmen cleared some rocks in front of James so he could pull alongside Thomas. Then they dug Thomas out. The rocks were loaded into James's trucks to be moved away from the track. "I'm sorry I complained about pulling trucks!" James told Thomas. "A Really Useful Engine doesn't need to be a clean engine after all!"

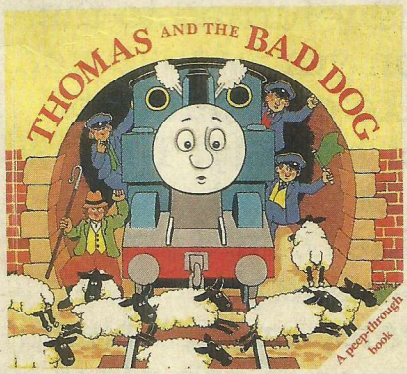
THE END!

In our next issue: The strange sign!

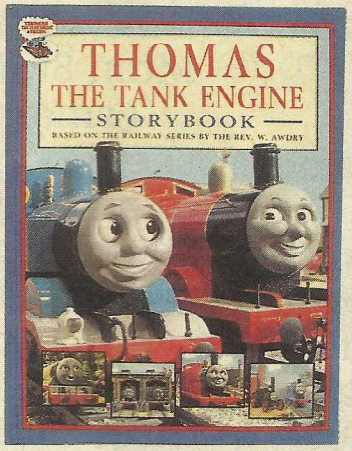
COMPETITION!

Welcome to our first Thomas Books Competition!

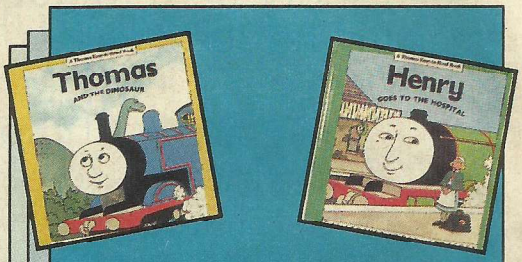
12 1st prize winners will receive a large **Thomas Pop-up Book!** (see opposite)



Our second **12 prize winners** will receive a **Thomas Peep-through** book! (above)



12 3rd prize winners receive a **TV Story Book!** (above)



24 lucky **4th prize winners** will receive an **Easy to Read** book, either *"Thomas and the Dinosaur"* or *"Henry goes to Hospital"*. (above)

How to enter: All you have to do for your chance to win one of these splendid books is **complete** the following **sentence**:

Toby the Tram Engine works in the big _ _ _ _ _ _ !

Once you have completed the sentence, write your name and address!

Name_____ **Address**_____

_____

_____ **Postcode**_____

Now cut out this page and send it to ***Thomas/Reed Books Competition, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel St, London WC2 3DX.*** Closing date: 13th August 1993.

If you would like to tell us how much you enjoyed reading your prize book, please send us your letters and we will print them in our regular Book Review pages!

Rules: This competition is open to readers other than employees and their families of The Children's Division; Reed International Books., and Marvel Comics Ltd. The editor's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into.

THE STRANGE SMELL!

One morning, as Daisy rolled smoothly out of the engine shed, she saw Percy shunting trucks in the yard. Percy huffed and puffed while he worked busily. Thick, dark smoke blew out of his funnel.

"Grooh!" spluttered Daisy. "Keep away from me, Percy! You'll make me smell smoky and sooty, like you!" Percy was cross.

"It's not my fault I have to burn sooty coal to get up steam!" he replied.

Daisy thought the steam engines were old fashioned. She was proud of being a thoroughly modern, clean diesel railcar. When Percy saw Thomas waiting to be coupled to Annie and Clarabel, he puffed across the yard and told him what Daisy had said.

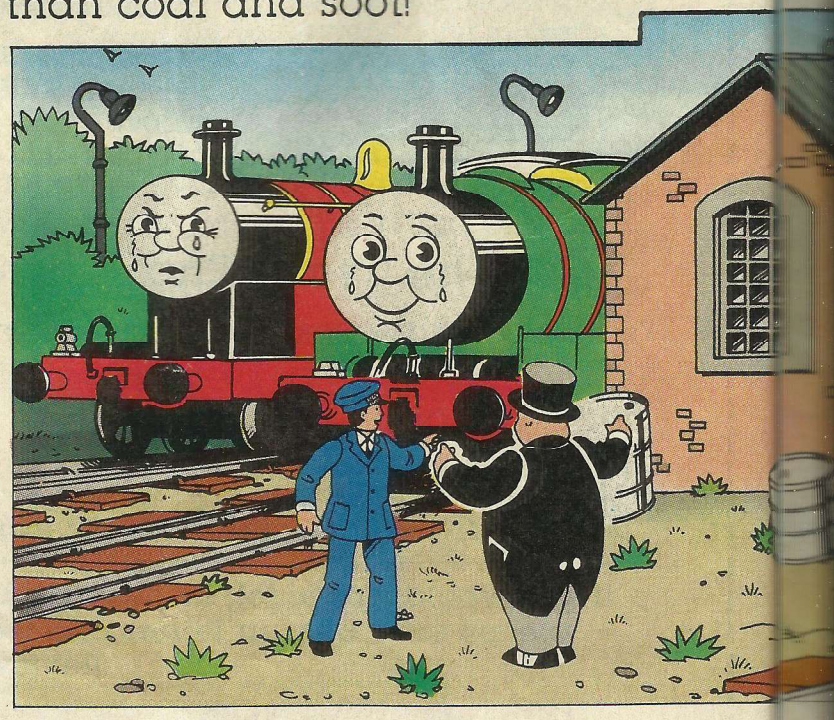
"There's nothing wrong with the smell of soot", fumed Percy."Daisy's just a fussy-buffers!"Meanwhile, the Fat Controller spoke to Daisy.

"You are to collect some flowers from the nursery near Wellsworth and take them to market!" he told her. Daisy was pleased. Usually, she only wanted to carry passengers. She thought pulling trucks was dirty work. But Daisy liked sweet-scented flowers. She was coupled to a truck, then set off eagerly.

When Daisy arrived, the nurserymen loaded her truck with colourful flowers. Afterwards, Daisy raced proudly along the line to the market where the flowers would be sold. Their wonderful perfume stayed with Daisy as she returned to the Main Station yard.

"I smell like a flower, too!" she thought happily. That evening in the shed, the steam engines could smell the scent on Daisy.

"Mm! Lovely, isn't it?" she boasted. "It's so much nicer than coal and soot!"



Percy and the others fumed angrily but said nothing. Next day, the Fat Controller asked Daisy to go to a different nursery.

"There is another important load to be collected and taken to market!" he said. Daisy was pleased.

"I'm glad I'm not a sooty old engine!" she told the steam engines. "Your smoke would spoil the sweet scent of the flowers!" Daisy hurried on her way. That afternoon, when she returned, a strange, strong smell came from her. Percy and the others were in the yard. It made their eyes water.

"Phew!" gasped Percy. "What is that smell?" Daisy's eyes were streaming too.

"Onions!" she replied. "It wasn't flowers I carried, this time. I had to deliver a load of onions to the vegetable market!" The steam engines laughed. Now Daisy was sorry she had been rude to them.

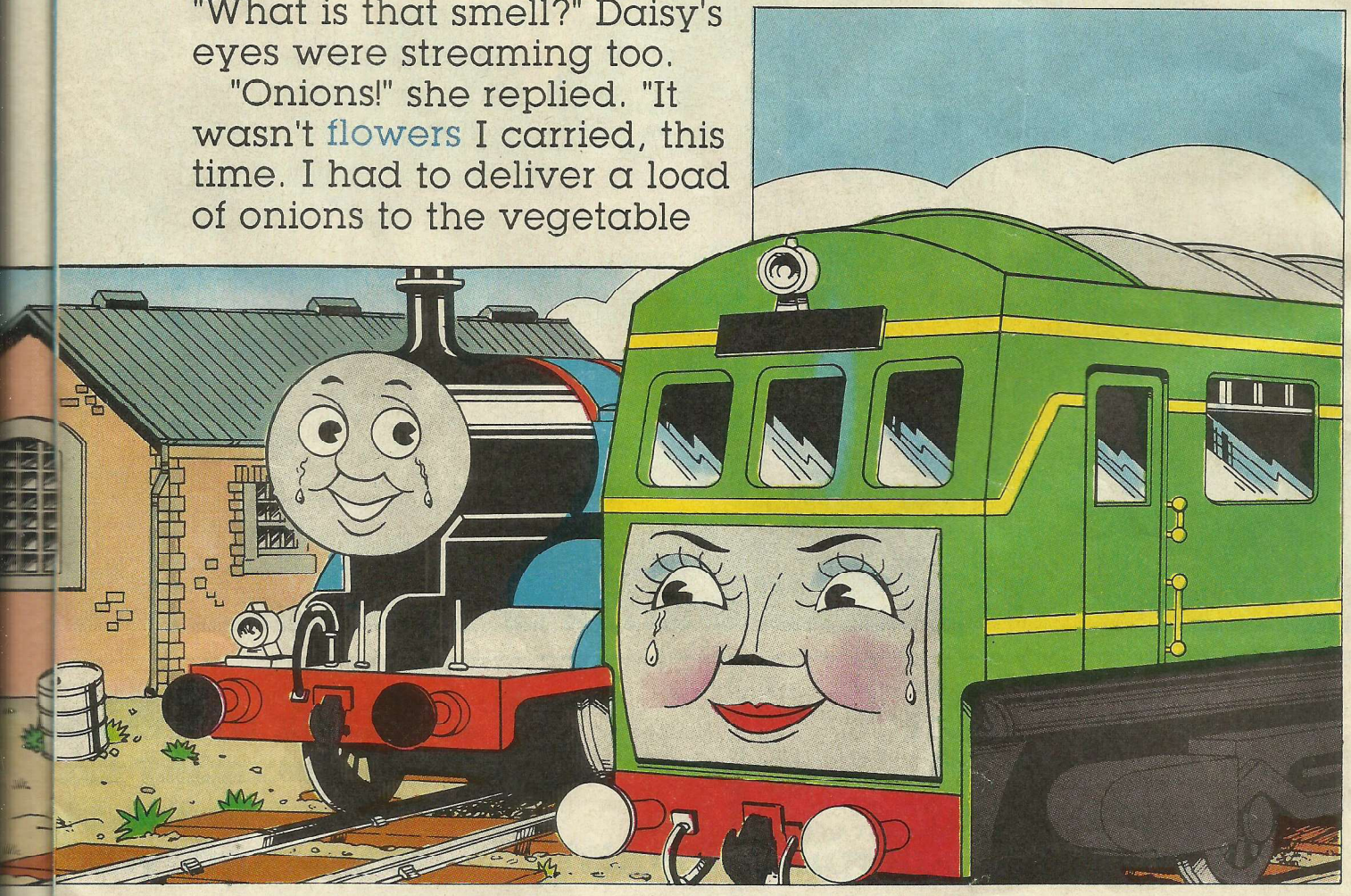
flowers

The steam engines saw Daisy was sad and forgave her.

"If you ask the Fat Controller, he will send you to be washed down to get rid of the smell!" said Thomas kindly. Daisy thanked him.

"I'd rather smell like a steam engine than an onion engine!" Daisy laughed.

THE END!



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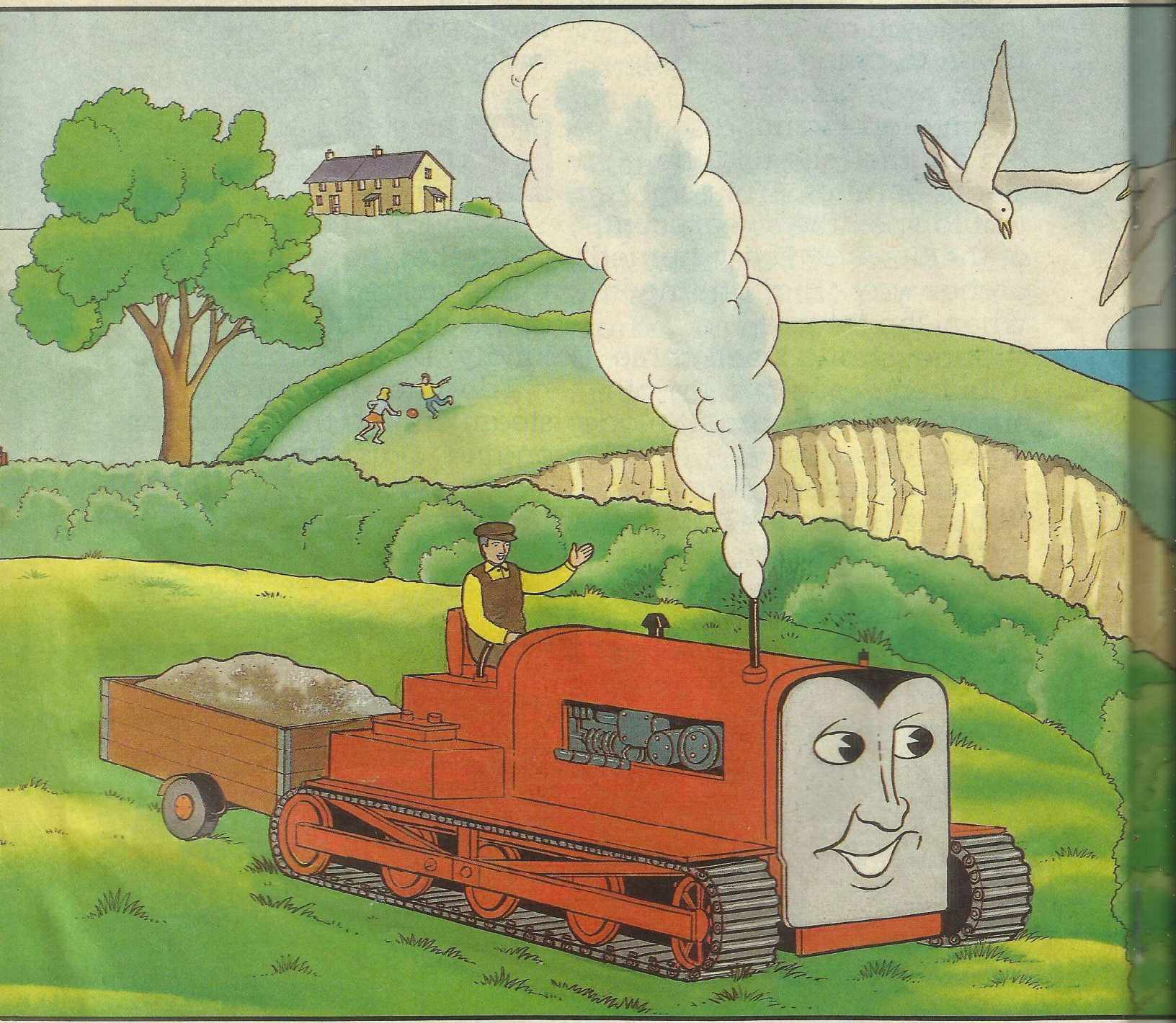
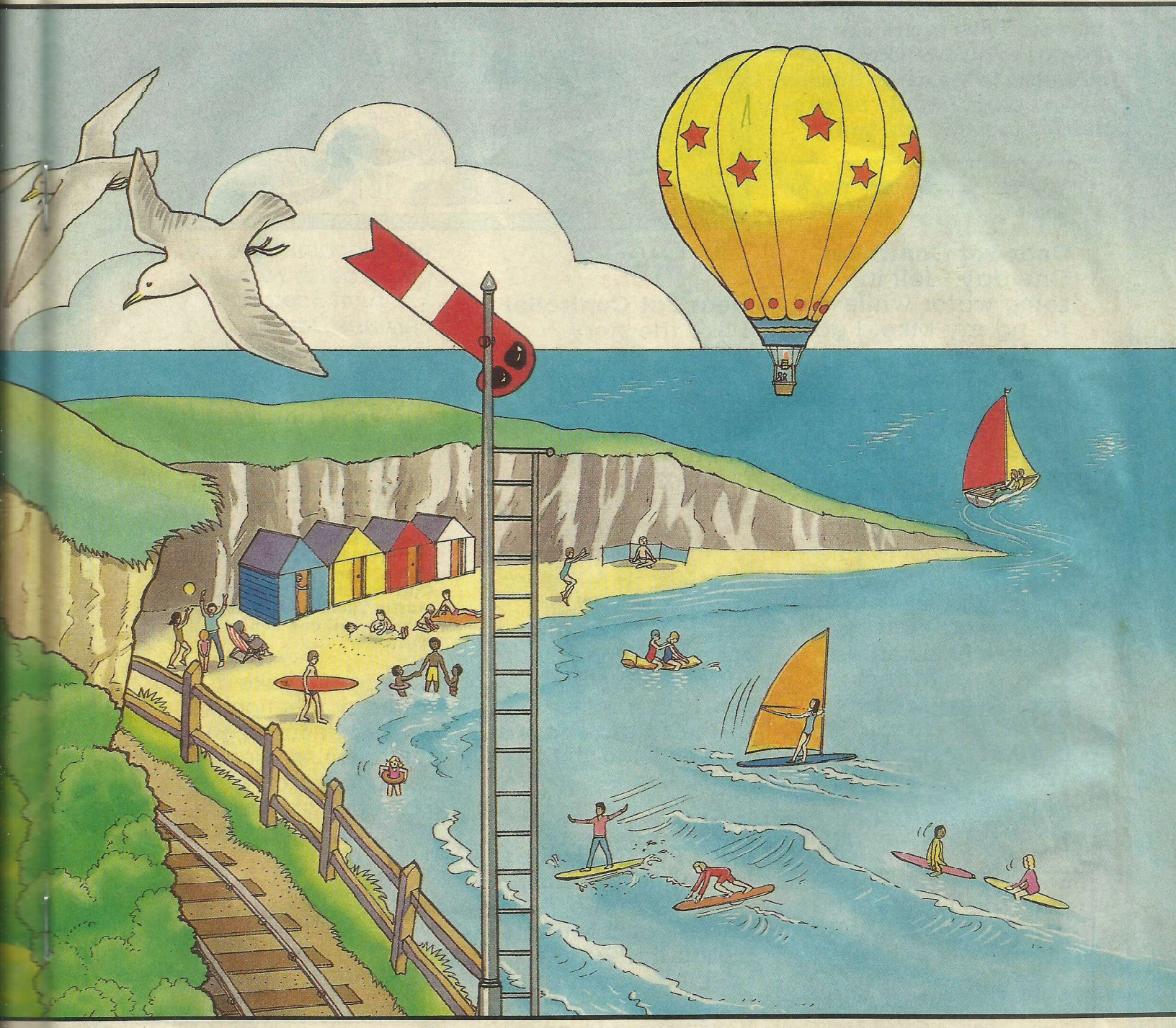


Point to the tractor!
What is his name?
What colour is he?
Can you see his caterpillar treads?

Look at the beac
How many beac
Point to the big
How many birds

her beach!

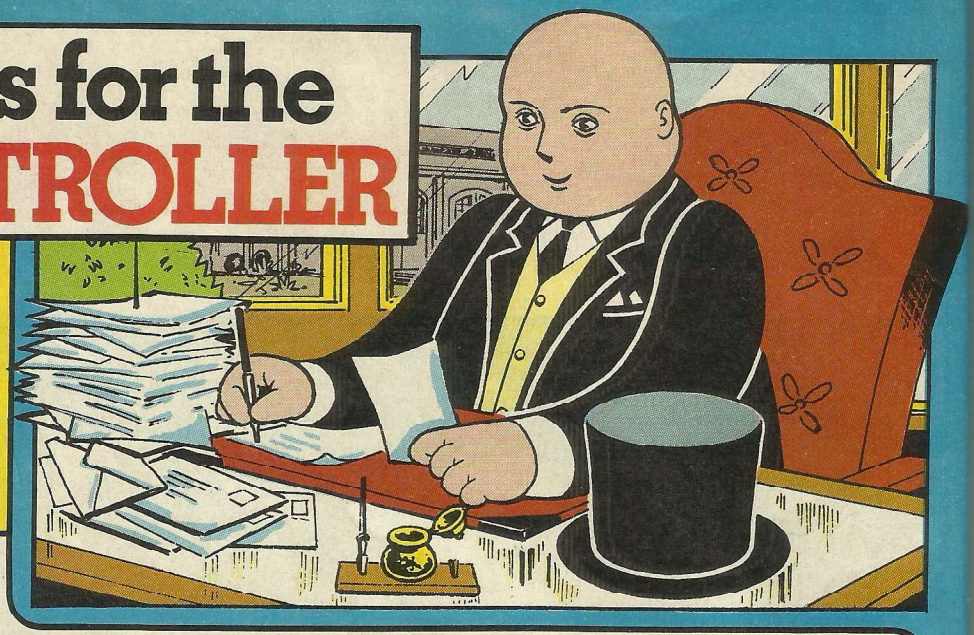


beach!
each huts can you see?
big balloon!
irds can you see?

Note to parents:
This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the comic with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There will be a **'mural page'** in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends**. Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room!

In our next issue: Past the yacht race!

Your letters for the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas or his friends? If so, then write to me at the address shown below! I would be so very pleased to hear from you!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
One day I fell in some water while riding my bike. I got really wet. It's a shame Thomas couldn't have been there. He could have pulled me out of the water.

Love from **John Dunlop,** aged 3.

I must agree! In one of our recent adventures, Thomas impressed me greatly when he helped to pull a drifting boat away from a waterfall. You'll agree that he is a very useful engine indeed!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

The sender of any letter that is printed as our **STAR LETTER** will win some splendid **Thomas Pre-school** toys courtesy of *ERTL (UK) Ltd.*

FAVOURITE STORIES!

Dear Fat Controller,
I like the story called **"The Flying Kipper"**. Henry crashes into the snow and has to be lifted up by the crane and be put back on the railway!

Love from **Barry Smith** aged 9.

Yes! Henry felt very surprised that he had come off the rails, but I assured him that his accident happened because the snow had pushed the signal down.

FINE RAILWAY!

Dear Fat Controller,
My mum and dad took me to the Bo'ness and Kinneil Steam Railway. I had lots of fun but the best part was having a ride on a steam train that looked just like Douglas.

Love from **Ross Neely,** aged 2

I believe there are some very fine railway locomotives on our Scottish railways. My twin Scottish Engines Donald and Douglas originally came from the Caledonian Railway.

BIRTHDAYS!

Adam Barron, Duncan Feeley, Victor Stout, Daniel David, James Thompson, Georgina Marler, Jose Luis Thorne, Liam Tinsley, David Ward, Tanya Upton, David Upton, Daniel Mark Cartwright, Lee Doherty, Martin Thomas, Anthony John Powell and Ben Williams.

If you would like a birthday mention printed in one of our future issues, please send details on a post-card at least **nine weeks** in advance!

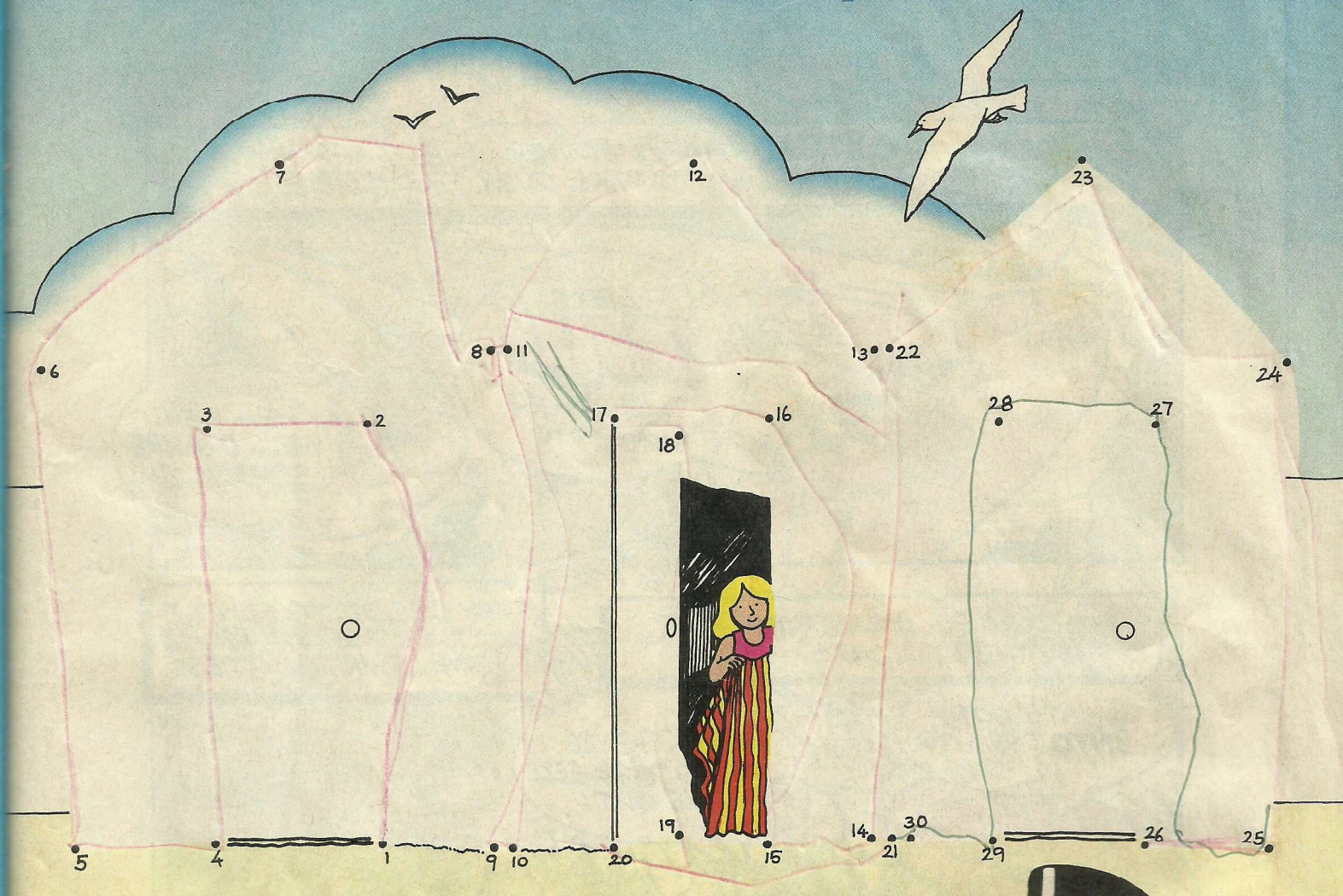
Yours
Sir Topham Hatt
The Fat Controller!

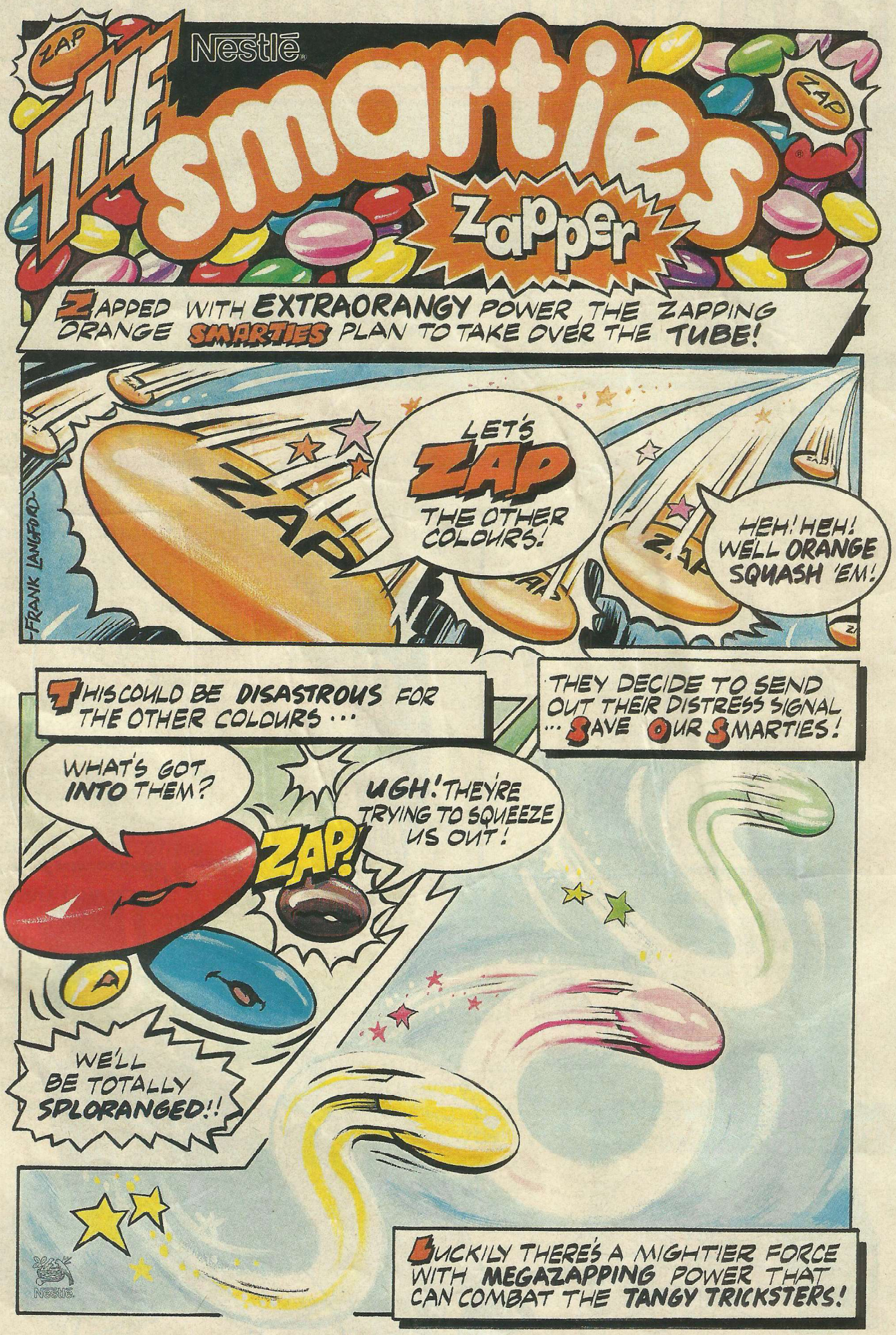
Send your letters to:

The Fat Controller
The Island of Sodor
c/o Marvel Comics Ltd
13/15 Arundel Street
London WC2.

JOIN THE DOTS!

This beach scene looks such fun.
Join the dots, one by one!




ZAP
THE smarties
Nestlé
ZAPPER
ZAP
ZAPPED WITH EXTRAORANGY POWER THE ZAPPING ORANGE SMARTIES PLAN TO TAKE OVER THE TUBE!
ZAP
LET'S ZAP THE OTHER COLOURS!
HEH! HEH! WELL ORANGE SQUASH 'EM!
FRANK LANGFORD
THIS COULD BE DISASTROUS FOR THE OTHER COLOURS ...
THEY DECIDE TO SEND OUT THEIR DISTRESS SIGNAL ... SAVE OUR SMARTIES!
WHAT'S GOT INTO THEM?
ZAP!
UGH! THEY'RE TRYING TO SQUEEZE US OUT!
WE'LL BE TOTALLY SPLORANGED!!
LUCKILY THERE'S A MIGHTIER FORCE WITH MEGAZAPPING POWER THAT CAN COMBAT THE TANGY TRICKSTERS!
Nestlé

* SEE SPECIAL SMARTIES PACKS FOR FURTHER DETAILS

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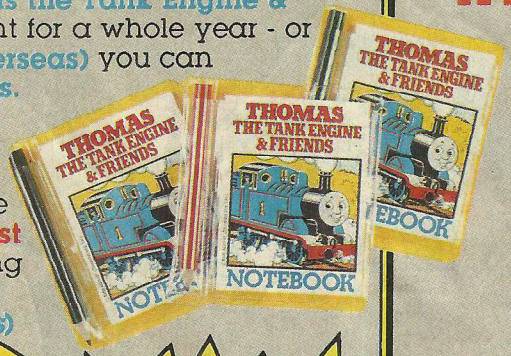

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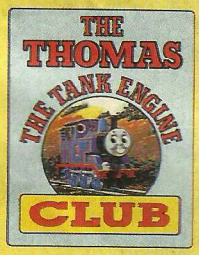
A SPLENDID GIFT FOR YOU!

THOMAS CLUB FORM ▼

SUBSCRIPTION FORM ▼



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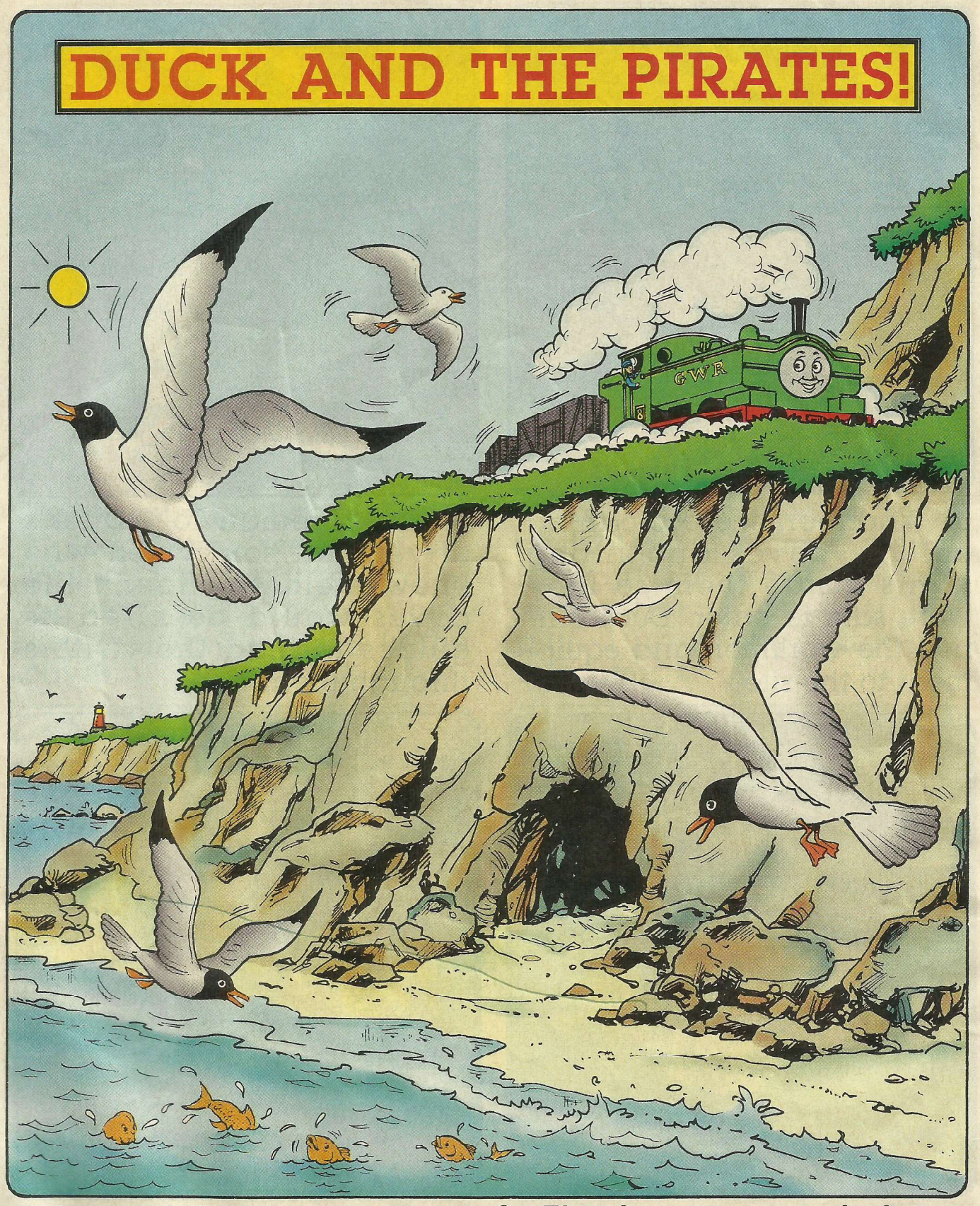
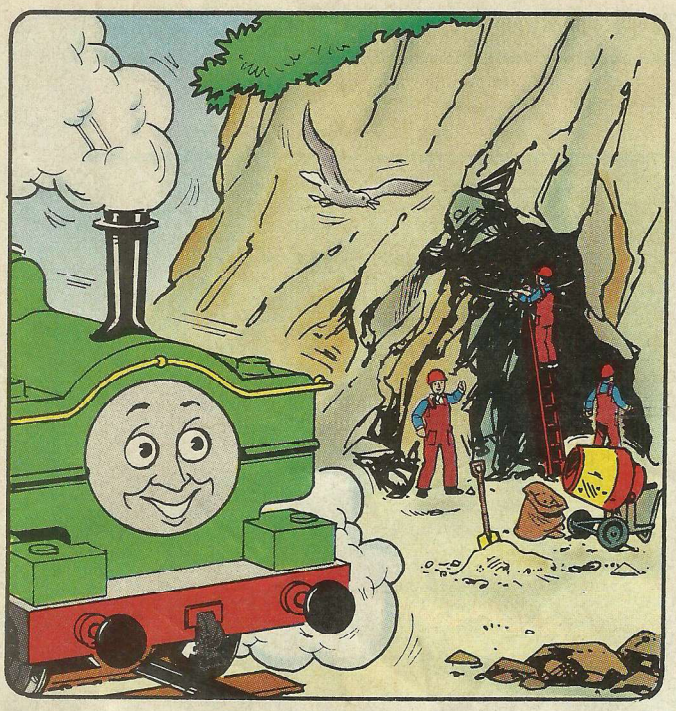
DUCK AND THE PIRATES!

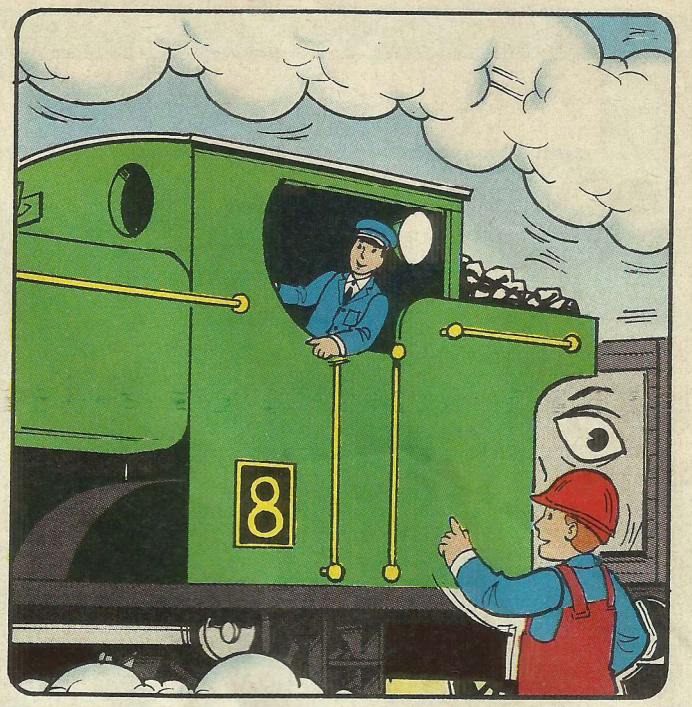


1. It was a fine, sunny morning and Duck busily pulled a goods train along his branch line. Soon he arrived at some tunnels on a cliff top, above the sea.

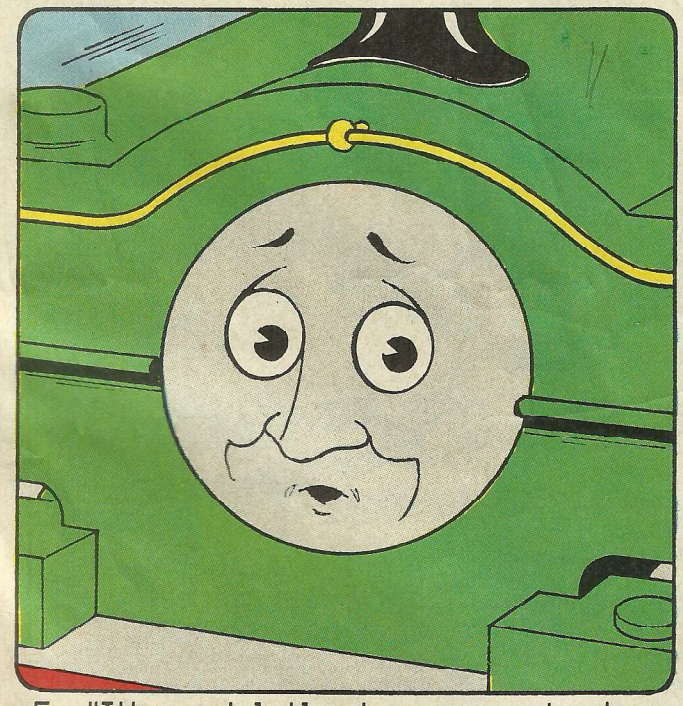
2. The large caves below were to be opened as a holiday attraction for the summer visitors to the Island of Sodor. The tunnels led down through the cliff.



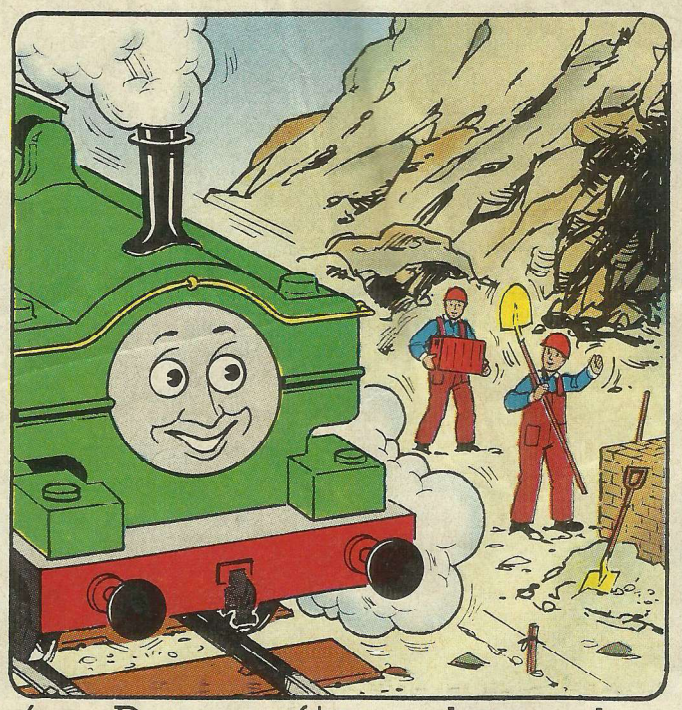
3. Workmen were cleaning out the caves and fitting lights inside them so they were safe to enter. Duck carried the workmen and equipment to the site.



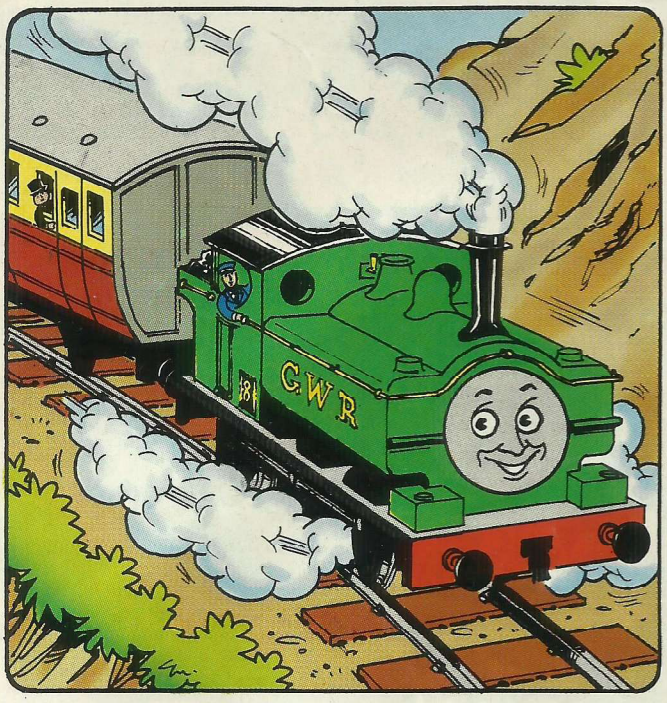
4. The foreman told Duck's driver that some men who knew their way round the caves would be hired as guides to lead the visitors through them.



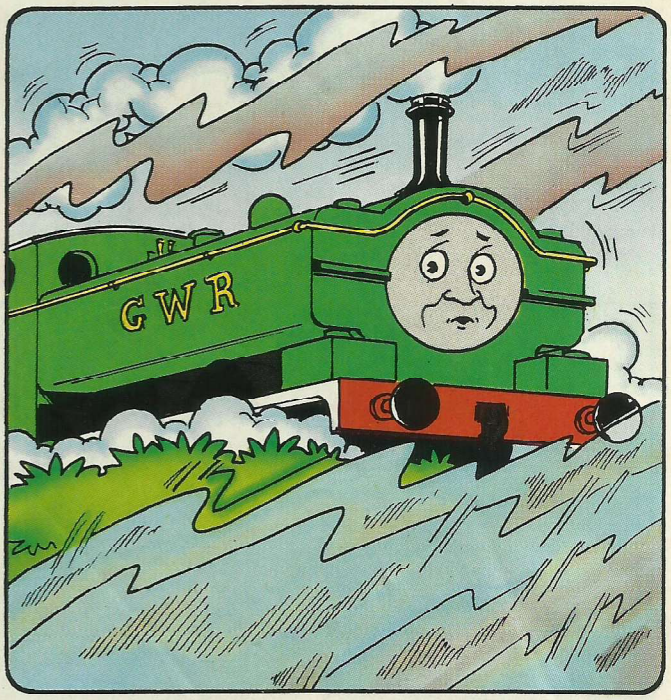
5. "It's said that once pirates hid treasure in the caves!" explained the foreman. "I'm glad there aren't pirates now!" thought Duck nervously.



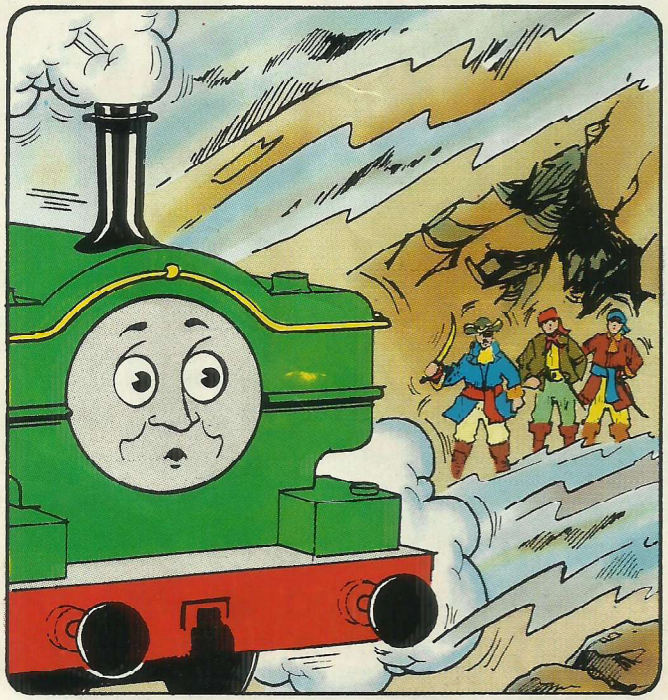
6. Day after day, he steamed to and from the caves as work inside them went on. Engineers built a siding nearby for the tourist trains to stop at.



7. At last, the 'Pirate Caves of Sodor' were ready for the visitors. On the grand opening day, Duck proudly carried the Fat Controller to the caves.

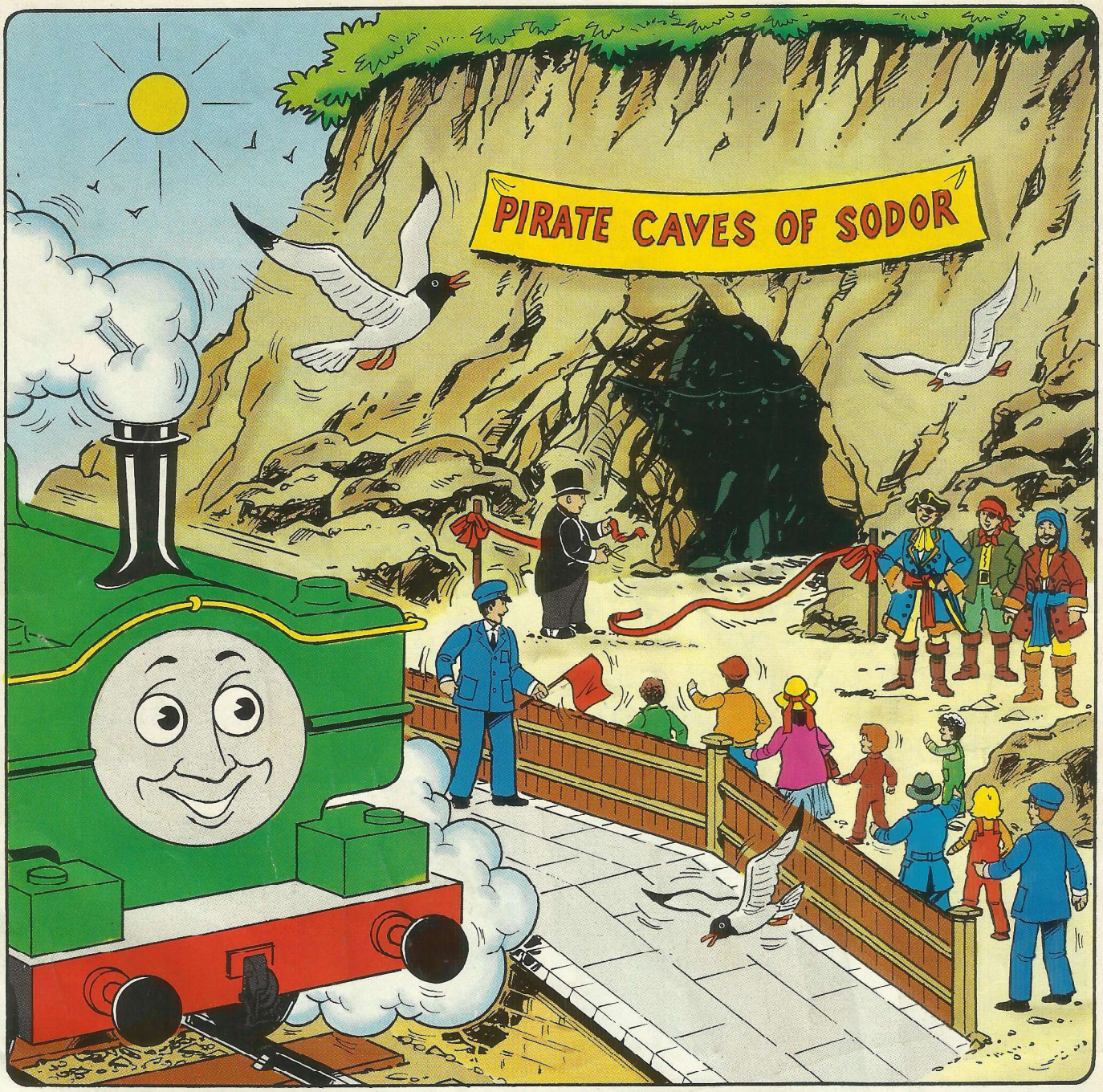


8. As Duck arrived, a thick mist blew in from the sea. He puffed very slowly along the track until he pulled up at the siding by the caves.



9. Through the mist, some strange figures walked towards Duck. "Shiver me timbers! Look!" he cried in alarm. "Why, there are still pirates, after all!"

10. The men were dressed in old-fashioned clothes. Some wore boots and brass-buttoned coats. They had pointed hats and one even wore a patch on his eye.



11. "Ahoy, there!" cried the pirate leader, waving to Duck. The man had a big black beard and looked fierce. Duck was nervous! The Fat Controller stepped out of the carriage and greeted the pirate. "It's all right, Duck!" the Fat Controller called. "They aren't real pirates. They are the cave guides!"

12. The Fat Controller explained that the guides had dressed up as pirates for the opening ceremony. Soon the mist cleared and a crowd watched as the Fat Controller cut a ribbon tied across the entrance to the caves. Everyone cheered. "I'm glad those guides are only pretend pirates!" said Duck.

THE END!

In our next issue: The smart engines!